

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CHECKLIST

a preliminary tool for industrial
hygiene investigations



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DC OSHA: BACKGROUND



- Public Law 91-596
- Federal OSHA Act of 1970
- District of Columbia Law 2-139 authorized the Districts' program in 1980
- Insured employer compliance with both DC and Federal laws

OFFICE OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

- CONSULTATION
UNIT

- Federally approved
and funded
- Staffed with (1) IH
and (2) safety
inspectors

- PUBLIC SECTOR
UNIT

- State funded and
mandated
- Staffed (2) IH's and (1)
safety inspector

CONSULTATIONS: SCOPE



- Primarily designed for small businesses with less than 100 employees.
- **ONLY** upon request of the employer
- Provide **FREE** assistance with the goal of maintaining a safe and healthy workplace
- Self-selection; helping those who want to help themselves
- No fines or penalties

TOP 5 HAZARDS OBSERVED:

- 1910.1200 Hazard Communication
- 1926 Construction
 - safety programs
 - employee training
- 1910.305 Electrical
- 1910.1030 Bloodborne Pathogens Plan
- 1910.141 Housekeeping

***Ergonomics

OUTREACH TO SMALL BUSINESSES



- BROCHURE
DISTRIBUTION
- DOOR-TO-DOOR
- COMPLAINANT
REFERRALS



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CHECKLIST

WHY????

- NUMBER AND
VOLUME OF CLIENTS
- STAFFING
- TIME RESOURCES



HOW DOES THE CHECKLIST HELP??

- Highlights the most frequently addressed health violations
- Easily utilizable for general evaluations of large bldgs
- Quickly identifies target areas requiring follow-up; sampling or referencing the regulations for specific details
- User friendly for modifications by employer, SBO, etc.

VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINALS

VDT'S

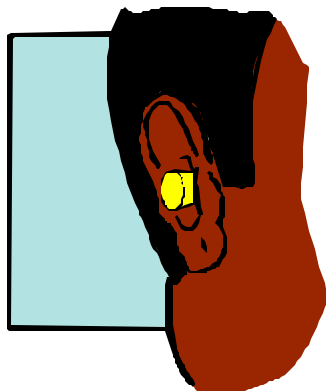
- Universal concern because of economic impact to workmen's compensation-
carpal tunnel syndrome
- District passed a Mayoral Order implementing an ergonomic policy
- Not enforceable for private sector



NOISE: DO YOU HAVE TO SHOUT TO BE HEARD???



- Overexposure can be achieved over short/long term periods
- Hearing tests required- baseline and annual
- Engineering controls/substitution and/or ear plugs
- Hearing conservation program



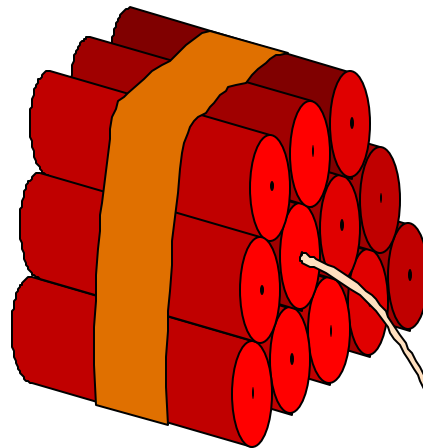
RADIATION:

- Regulatory coverage depends upon the type of radioactive source
- Employee radioactive badges generally required
- Seek other agencies for radiation specific information



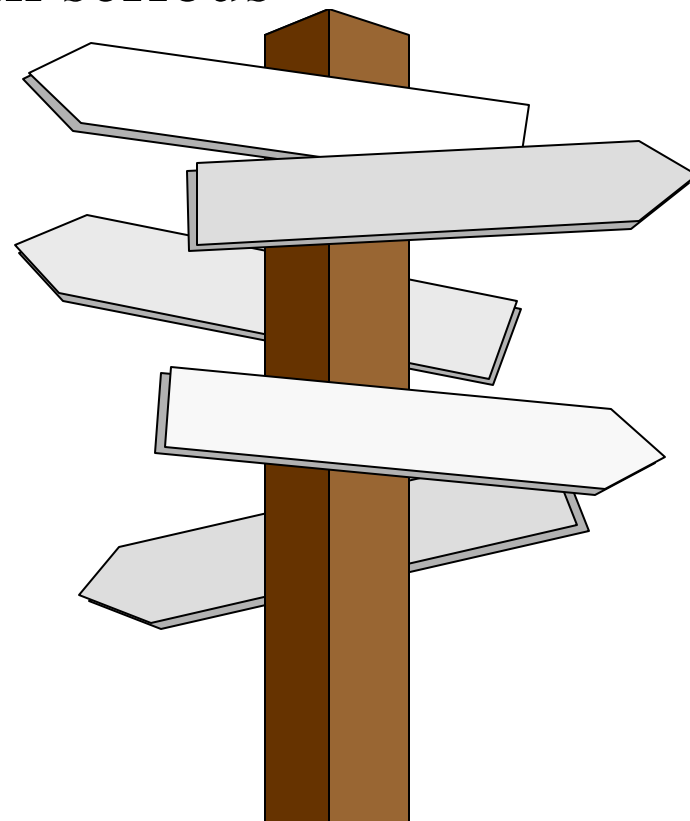
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Compressed gases
- Flammable /Combustibles
- Explosives
- Paint Spraying
- Dip Tanks



CHEMICAL HAZARD COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

- Broadest regulation with greatest impact
- Often the most overlooked with serious consequences
- Requires
 - MSDS
 - Employee training
 - Written plans
 - Labeled containers



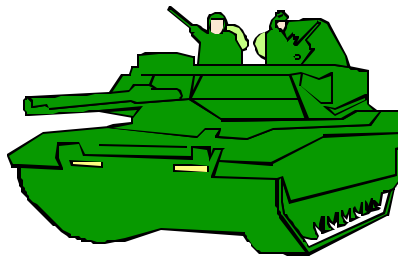
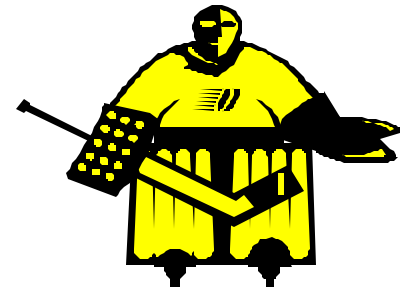
AIR QUALITY, TOXIC/HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE

- Odors-no std in OSHA but District has an odor emissions regulation
- Respirable dust/asbestos, fumes, mist in a small bus. must be sampled.
- Mold, mildew, fungus-no std but cultures are taken to evaluate serious microbial colonies

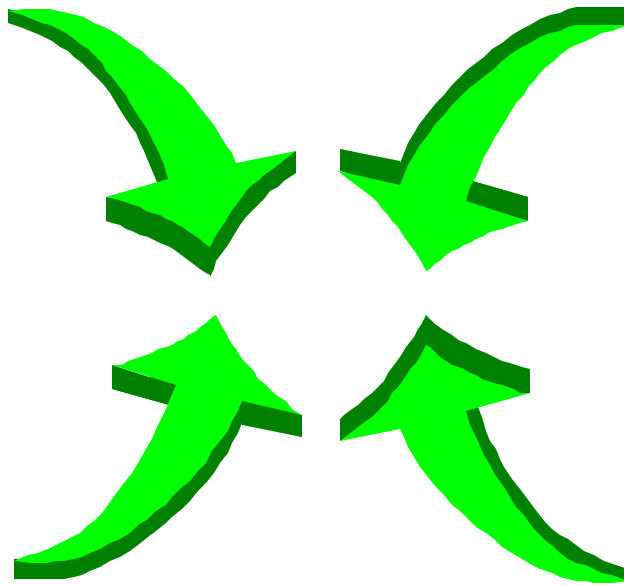
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: DON'T WORK WITHOUT IT!!!



- Appropriate for the hazard
- Well maintained
- Written procedures
- Training
- Fit testing

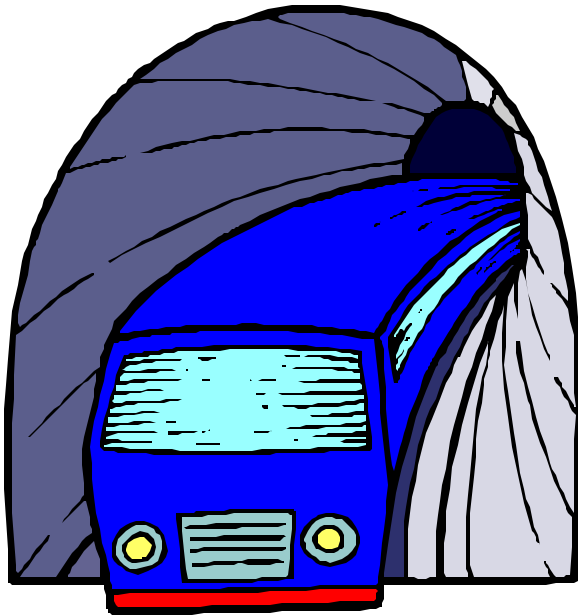


VENTILATION:



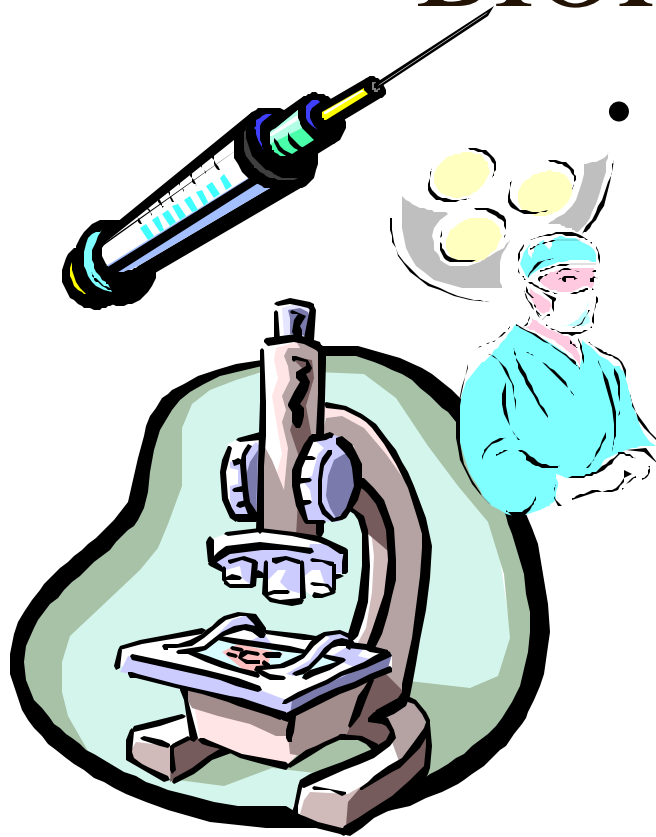
- NO WIN SITUATION
- SUPPLY AND RETURN IN EACH ROOM
- 15% FRESH AIR INTAKE
- NO OSHA STD
- BOCA CODES IN DCMR
- ASHRAE
- FILTERS/SYSTEM MAINTAINED

CONFINED SPACES



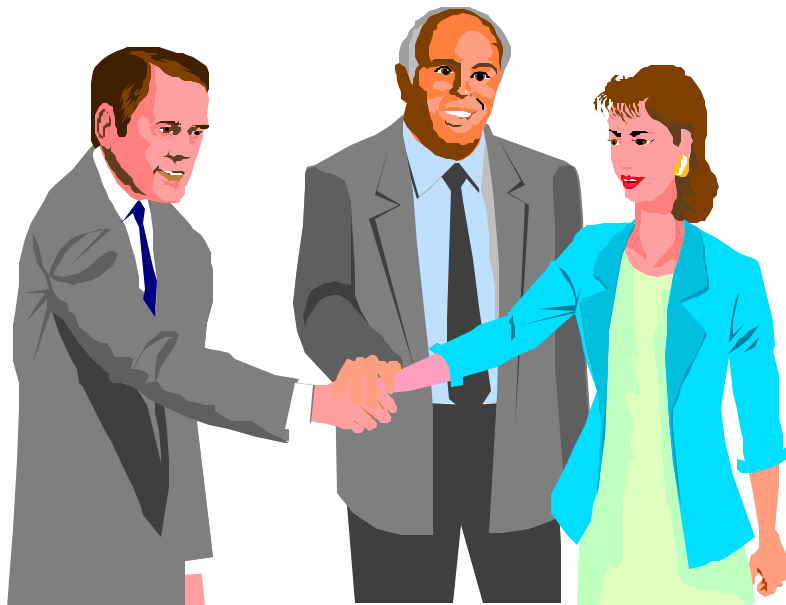
- PERMITS
- ATMOSPHERIC TESTING
- VENTILATION
- RESCUE PROCEDURES
- TRAINING, TRAINING,

INFECTIOUS DISEASES: BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS/ BIOHAZARDS



- BBPP
 - UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS
 - IDENTIFICATION BY LEVEL
 - HEPATITIS VAC
 - PPE AND WORK PRACTICES

IN CLOSING



- USER FRIENDLY TOOL WITH MODIFICATIONS
- FREE TECHNICAL RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE
- MAKE ME WORK FOR YOU
- SAVE MONEY